SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BOARD
CIRCULAR NO. 17, January 28, 1908
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THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

OF THE

SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BOARD

The Simplified Spelling Board had in view, at its organization in January, 1906, the formation, as soon as circumstances should permit, of an Advisory Council, composed of scholars, educators, and others interested in intellectual and social progress, to whom should be referd for their opinion and advice all proposals for the simplification of English spelling; such Council to represent all parts of the country, and all phases of educated opinion favorable to the general idea of simplified spelling, and thus to constitute a large body of competent advisers upon whose united opinion the general public might confidently rely.

The Board at its annual meeting in April, 1907, adopted a plan for the establishment of such a Council, and for the nomination and election of its members; and after much deliberation and correspondence, it announced, January 28, 1908, the election and acceptance of one hundred and sixty-five persons, chiefly scholars and educators, as the first members of the Council. Since then twenty-eight other members have been elected, three have died, and one has been transferd to the Board, making a present total membership of one hundred and eighty-nine.

The qualifications for membership are thus stated in the constitution: "The qualifications for membership in the Council shall be the same as those expected for membership in the Board, namely, first, a belief in the principle and in the immediate practis of simplified spelling in some degree, and secondly, a recognized status and influence as educator, scholar, writer, or man of affairs."

The names of the members of the Advisory Council thus far elected are printed below, according to the States in which they reside, the States and names being arranged in alfabetic order. The Council will be seen to be alredy representativ of every part of the country and of every line of educational and professional activity. A cause which has the approval and support of so many eminent scholars and educators must in the end win the approval and support of the general public. From time to time other men and women of like standing will be chosen, in every State, and among all professions.

Nominations are made by members of the Board or of the Council. Educational and scientific societies in any State may propose persons to represent the State in the Council.

Members of the Advisory Council for Great Britain will be chosen in cooperation with the Simplified Spelling Society, founded in London, September 10, 1908. It is expected to extend the Council to all English-speaking countries. It alredy includes three members in Canada, and one in China. A later list will include representativs in Australia and the Philippine Ilands. It is also proposed to elect as honorary or corresponding members a number of eminent scholars in France, Germany, Italy and other countries of Europe, who are professionally concernd in English philology and are interested in the movement for a rational spelling of English.

All proposals for simplification made in or to the Board are referd also to the Council for its opinion and advice; and many of its members take an activ part in the practical promotion of the cause.

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